

Apartment 404
West Building
Hunting Towers
Alexandria, Virginia
July 6, 1962

Honorable John A. McCone
Director of Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCone:

Recently there have been communicated to me your views concerning my intention to publish an account of my personal experiences preceding and following my imprisonment by the Russian Government.

While you have been correctly informed that I have been negotiating with interested publishers with a view toward publishing my personal account, I wish again to dispel any doubts concerning my initiating these negotiations without prior consultation. The invitations to discuss the publishing of my experiences were received from various publishers both before and immediately upon my return to the United States. These invitations were directed not only to me but to various Agency officials, including yourself. I made no effort to discuss these offers until I had been advised that there was no objection on the part of the Agency or the Government to my doing so. While I did not expect any encouragement in this matter, I am distressed that I was misled in believing there was no objection to my so doing.

I understand now that you are of the opinion that in view of the public acceptance of the presentation of my account to the Senate Armed Services Committee, any further effort by me to comment in extenuation of my experiences would only result in possible injury to the Agency and to myself.

I will, therefore, accept your feeling on this subject and although I am not persuaded by the logic thereof, I will abide by your desires not to publish a book on my experiences at this time. I would be less than candid if I left the impression that I am taking these steps willingly. I am not, however, unmindful of the great effort which was made by the Government to obtain my release from imprisonment and am most grateful for this interest in my behalf. Accordingly, I am

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advising those publishers with whom I have been negotiating and who have shown an active interest in publishing my experiences that I will not entertain any further consideration of their offers.

You have been most kind to consider this matter and I want to thank you for the time you have taken from more important matters to give your attention to my problems.

Very truly yours,

Francis Gary Powers